

The Knoxville Independent

GEO. W. FORD, EDITOR.

718 GAY STREET.
OFFICE PHONE (OLD) 296
RESIDENCE PHONE (OLD) 686

Entered at the postoffice at Knoxville, Tenn., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates, by mail, one year, \$1.00; six months, 50 cents; three months, 25 cents; single copies, 2 cents.

"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

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Bollermakers on Canadian government railroads have a minimum rate of 48 cents an hour.

Lithographers' International union has thirty-four locals, with a combined membership of 4,378.

San Francisco Building Material Teamsters' union has received an increase of 50 cents a day.

Steam Shovel and Dredgers' union comprises fifty-four local unions, with a total membership of 2,295.

Organized workers of Pueblo, Colo., have a \$5 average wage and eight hours, unorganized a wage of \$2.50 per day of ten hours.

The first year and a half of the Wyoming compensation law shows a surplus of over \$300,000. The expense of enforcing the law was 1.44 per cent against 45 per cent cost to private companies.

DIVISION IS THE DANGER.

Any Lack of Solidarity in Labor's Ranks Weakens the Cause.

Organized labor cannot advance except through the organization of the workers.

The real test is the extent in which it has succeeded in enlisting in its ranks the working element of the community.

Nothing can take the place of organization.

The business of those entrusted with the destinies of the labor movement is to get the largest possible number of workers into the labor organizations.

The official or agent who is neglecting this for any cause is a failure.

The enemies of organized labor know that the thing they have most to fear is organization, and so they do their utmost to prevent it.

They keep their members and their official representatives busy with things that have no particular advantage to the movement.

They lead them off with false political issues.

They inspire dissatisfaction with the officials and agencies that are most active and effective in the work of organizations.

Anything to keep back the real progress of organized labor.—Los Angeles Citizen.

Gompers Banquet.

A golden anniversary dinner was given to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, Sunday evening, Jan. 28, at the Central Opera House, New York. The occasion was the fiftieth anniversary of his wedding and of his activity in the organized labor movement.

FREEDOM MUST BE PRESERVED

Dangers of Proposed Law to Make Strikes Illegal.

NO SURRENDER OF RIGHTS

To Deny Wagerworkers Privilege of Concerted Action Would Take Away the Only Effective Weapon of Organized Labor—Economic Power Is the Toolers' Only Protection.

By SAMUEL GOMPERS.

A proposal which is now under consideration by congress illustrates the necessity for making theory square with experience. A plan may be theoretically perfect, but may fall completely when put into actual practice. Upon labor matters particularly many of our lawmakers are merely theorists. The result often is what was aptly described by John Bright, who looked around the British parliament and remarked, "Here are we, the cats, making laws for the mice." So in truth it seems that only those who occupy the same relative relation to workers that cats do to mice could seriously propose and defend the legislation now pending in congress.

It is proposed that congress enact a law to prevent wage earners from agreeing to quit work collectively. In other words, legislation is proposed to limit or deny the right of concerted action to inaugurate a strike. However, every one knows that the effect of the proposed legislation would be to deny individuals the right to stop working at will or, stated conversely, the law would compel workers to remain at work under conditions against which they protest—a condition which is in no way different from slavery.

The individual worker in modern industry has become simply a cog in the great industrial machine—each must work in co-operation with the others. Real individuality is gone from industrial organization. There is no way by which an individual worker can express his individual resentment against injustice or wrong. There is no way by which he can as an individual secure redress for wrong. For an individual to quit work has no effect upon conditions against which he may justly protest. The only effect of his action would be to leave him without employment. An individual worker can readily be replaced.

The only way to make the protest of workers effective is concerted action. For one or two railroad men to leave their positions because they could not secure the eight hour workday would accomplish but little in inducing the railroad corporations to agree to shorten hours of work. The only thing that can make the railroad companies see the reasonableness of the eight hour workday is to make them appreciate the economic power of their employees.

The purpose of the legislation is to make strikes illegal. This is completely at variance with the whole trend of industrial development and recent legislation enacted by congress. Practically all of the people of our country have now grasped the fact that a strike is not a crime. There must be a complete revolution of feeling if they indorse the proposal in congress which will make strikes crimes. If strikes are declared crimes it will then be necessary to impose severe penalties in order to enforce the purpose of the law. The purpose and the method of the legislation are reactionary. To make strikes illegal means to hold a prison before the eyes of the workers and to force them to work at the command of employers.

The workers throughout the entire country are fully aroused to the dangers contained in this proposed "compulsory investigation" plan. These dangers have awakened them to full appreciation of a fundamental principle. Workers cannot delegate to outside authority, even though that authority be the government, the right to regulate industrial relations without creating an opportunity for a continuous infringement upon their rights and freedom. The railroad brotherhoods, like all organizations affiliated to the American labor movement, have opposed the legislative method as the way to secure a shorter workday and higher wages, but the situation was such that the railway brotherhoods yielded to the policy of the government and accepted the Adamson law. But just as soon as the government acquired the right to regulate the hours of work for railway employees it at once began to augment its powers, to provide regulations for other relations and to limit the right to quit work. The experience illustrates the danger to which the American Federation of Labor has repeatedly called attention.

The industrial freedom of wage earners depends upon their keeping control over industrial relations within their own hands. Once delegate even a particle of that authority to the government and they limit their freedom and forge a chain that retards normal free action in all lines.

Economic power is the only agency which the workers have for self protection and self betterment. They must retain that power and oppose every effort that would take from them their birthright as free workers—free citizens.

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TENNESSEE

Epitome of Interesting Events That Are Transpiring Over the State

McMinnville.—The splendid lyceum course for this winter closed with the Panama singers.

Athens.—The ladies of the Athens Browning circle have organized a chrysanthemum club.

McMinnville.—The McMinnville district of Christian Endeavor convention was held last week.

Knoxville.—The man who introduced weinerwursts, hot tamales and hokey-pokey to Knoxville, Harry Royston, is dead.

Dresden.—Clarence Ward, one of Dresden's progressive farmers, was killed while felling a tree near his home.

Nashville.—Special Commissioner H. Doak has postponed the sale of the Tennessee Central railroad until the first of March.

Newbern.—A mass meeting was held at the courthouse in Dyersburg to protest against the proposed drainage of Reelfoot lake.

Brownsville.—The building owned and occupied by William Moore on Key Komer street, in this city, was entirely destroyed by fire.

Clarksville.—The friends of A. M. Leach are well pleased over his appointment as treasurer of the farm loan bank for this district.

Paris.—The \$65,000 coupon bonds of Henry county, authorized to meet the county's outstanding indebtedness, were sold to the Paris banks.

Rogersville.—Robert Armstrong, the bright little 9-year-old son of W. S. Armstrong, was badly injured when he exploded a dynamite cap.

Gallatin.—Workmen are now engaged in remodeling the interior of the building owned and occupied by the First and Peoples national bank.

Fayetteville.—Rev. Burke Culpepper, one of the best known evangelists in the south, is conducting a meeting at the Methodist church here.

Columbia.—Judge E. H. Hatcher, aged 69 years, leading attorney of Columbia bar, died of acute indigestion, after an illness lasting but a short time.

Chattanooga.—The Fifth Maryland Infantry, 1,100 in number, under command of Col. John Hinkley, spent over two hours here on their way home from the Mexican border.

Newbern.—The next state examination will be held at Dyersburg March 30 and 31. Superintendent Riley M. Grills of Trimble will preside over the examinations in this county.

Dyersburg.—Rev. S. A. Atwood, pastor of the Baptist church at Brownsville, has accepted the call to come to the Dyersburg Baptist church and will take charge of the pulpit here March 1.

Knoxville.—Miss Anne Martin, of Reno, Nev., chairman of the woman's national committee, was the principal speaker at the suffrage banquet held at Johnson City in connection with the congressional union.

Lynnville.—For many years the subject of electric lights for Lynnville has been agitated. Now the business men and board of aldermen say electric lights are a certainty and that within a few months the long-needed convenience will be realized.

McMinnville.—Despite the pouring rain a large crowd of men and women gathered in the school auditorium to hear an address on suffrage by the national organizer, Miss Josephine Miller of Little Rock, who has just returned from nursing in France.

Nashville.—At a public meeting resolutions were passed after a stormy debate, calling for a referendum vote by the people before the United States shall declare war, except in case of invasion. Discussion for and against the resolutions grew so heated that a call was sent in for the police.

Knoxville.—A proposition that the city commission either secure a mandatory injunction forcing the Southern railway to erect a viaduct across its tracks at Broadway or that the commission order the erection of the structure and then sue the Southern for the recovery of the same was suggested by members of a delegation of 100 citizens, which appeared before the commission.

Dresden.—Interest in dairy farming in Weakley county increased greatly in the last year. The farmers in one dairy community report to R. E. Ellis, county agent in farm demonstration work, that they have contracted for 20 new silos.

Columbia.—Douglas Stephenson was almost instantly killed when he jumped from an automobile near Neapolis, this county.

Cookeville.—There was a largely attended peace meeting held at the Methodist church in this city.

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Our Query and Reply Department

Can the German kaiser declare war on a country without consent of either the reichstag or the senate?

According to the German constitution, the emperor (the executive) can only declare a defensive war without the consent of the bundesrath.

Where did the several European belligerents begin or declare war?

Substantially as follows: Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia July 28, 1914; Germany declared war on Russia Aug. 1, 1914; Germany declared war on Belgium Aug. 4; Germany declared war on France Aug. 3, 1914; Great Britain declared war on Germany Aug. 4, 1914; Austria-Hungary declared war on Russia Aug. 6; France declared war on Austria-Hungary Aug. 10; Montenegro declared war on Austria-Hungary Aug. 8; Great Britain declared war on Austria-Hungary Aug. 12; Japan declared war on Germany Aug. 23; Turkey began war with Russia by bombarding Odessa from the sea Oct. 29; Great Britain and France declared war on Turkey Nov. 5; Italy declared war on Austria May 23, 1915; Italy declared war on Turkey Aug. 20; Russian ultimatum to Bulgaria Oct. 4; Russian ultimatum rejected by Bulgaria Oct. 6; Bulgaria declared war on Serbia Oct. 14. German troops entered French territory without declaration of war Aug. 2, and each nation's representative demanded his passports Aug. 3. France held that war began automatically with the attack upon her frontier. The German minister left Serbia Aug. 9, 1914. The Turkish ambassador left Petrograd Nov. 1, 1914. The five allies joined in formal declaration of war against Turkey Nov. 10, 1914. In 1916, Germany declared war on Portugal March 8; Italy declared war on Germany Aug. 27; Roumania declared war on Austria Aug. 28, Germany on Roumania the same day; Turkey declared war on Roumania Aug. 30, and Bulgaria on Roumania Sept. 1.

Is it constitutional for a president to serve three terms?

Yes.

I understand that most earthquakes occur near the sea. Will you tell me how far inland any earthquakes of which there is reliable information have occurred and also how high above the sea level the highest ones have been?

There is no limit, except the size of the continent, to the distance of the origins of earthquakes from the ocean. Earthquakes occur in the middle of Asia, and probably the strongest earthquakes on record in the United States occurred in the southeastern part of Missouri in the years 1811 and 1812.

There is less information as to the altitude, but it is probable that earthquakes occur very high in mountain ranges. A very severe earthquake on July 6, 1912, occurred in the neighborhood of Mount McKinley, Alaska, apparently at a very high altitude. No exact figures can be given.

Please print a short history of the changes of the government of China.

From a period antedating the Christian era until a few years ago it was a hereditary monarchy. On Jan. 12, 1912, it became a republic, with Yuan Shih Kai as president. In December, 1915, he agreed to accept the throne and title of emperor, but later he renounced this action and declared his purpose to continue to act as president. He died June 6, 1916, and Li Yuan Hung, vice president, succeeded to the presidency. He is regarded as a strong man. He was elected vice president Oct. 7, 1913, for five years, and by the terms of the constitution there should be another election of president in October, 1918.

What is the scientific account of water boiling at so many degrees of heat and is it true that water boils in certain kinds of weather quicker than in other kinds?

At what temperature water boils or the molecules will fly off from boiling liquid depends entirely on the pressure to which the liquid is subjected. The atmosphere weighs down on all earthly things with a pressure that amounts to about fifteen pounds to the square inch at the level of the sea. If water is heated in the open air at the level of the sea the flying molecules must be able to overcome the pressure, otherwise the water does not boil. The temperature at which they can fly off at sea level, that water, in other words, can boil, is 212 degrees F. On the top of a high mountain, where the atmospheric pressure is much less because there is much less of it, the molecules will fly off much more readily than at the sea level, with the result that water will boil much below 212 degrees. If it were possible to remove the pressure of the atmosphere water could be made to boil at the temperature of an ordinary room without heating it.

When did the national pure food law take effect?

Jan. 1, 1907.

Was Missouri ever part of Louisiana?

Not of the present state of Louisiana, but of the original territory. We obtained Louisiana territory by purchase from France in 1803. In 1805 the southern part of the territory was organized as a territory under the name of Orleans, and the northern part under that of Louisiana. When Louisiana was admitted as a state, in 1812, the northern part was called Missouri and was admitted as the state of Missouri in 1821.

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"MADE IN AMERICA"

It's Good Enough For Me!

Resolve today that everything you consume must be the product of American labor.

Tell your wife to ask the merchants for American made products only and to refuse to buy anything not "Made In America."

There is no good reason for sending your money to Europe. Keep it at home and buy better and cheaper products.

If a father and son come to the United States from England and the father becomes naturalized, does the son have to be naturalized to become a United States citizen when he comes of age?

All children of a naturalized father who were under twenty-one years of age at the time of the father's naturalization become citizens if still residing in the country.

How many men in the United States army and how are they divided?

The present authorized enlisted strength of the army is 90,588 men. The principal divisions of the line are: Twelve companies of engineers, 1,942 men; twelve companies signal corps, 1,212 men; fifteen regiments cavalry, 14,124 men; six regiments field artillery, 5,513 men; 170 companies coast artillery, 18,007 men; thirty regiments infantry, 33,107 men. The others consist of men in the ordnance department, Philippine scouts, Porto Rico regiment, etc.

Please give me the correct pronunciation of "Don Quixote."

The Spanish pronunciation is "Don Ke-ho-te," with the accent on the "ho." The English pronunciation is "Don Kwiks-ot," with the accent on the "Kwik." The "o" in Don in each case is pronounced as the "o" in not. The "o" in Quixote in each case is pronounced as the "o" in note.

What were the principal battles of the Mexican war and when fought?

The principal battles in 1846 were: Palo Alto, May 8; Resaca de la Palma, May 9; Monterey, Sept. 21-24; in 1847, Buena Vista, Feb. 23; Vera Cruz, March 27; Cerro Gordo, April 18; Churubusco, Aug. 20; Chapultepec, Sept. 12-14; City of Mexico, Sept. 14.

Did any British submarines at any time during the war go through the Dardanelles, and if so, what did they accomplish?

British submarines have several times gone through the Dardanelles. These submarines sank quite a number of Turkish merchant ships and transports in the sea of Marmora. One of them even bombarded for a short time the quays of Constantinople itself, and another on Aug. 9, 1915, sank the Turkish battleship Barbarousse.

What is the difference between a business that is incorporated and one that is not?

An incorporated business is one that is owned by a corporation, as distinguished from one owned by an individual or a partnership of individuals. In an incorporated business liability for debts extends only to the property owned by the corporation, whereas an individual doing business in his own name is responsible to the full amount of his possessions.

What were the reasons Louis Napoleon wished the south to win in the Civil war?

It is a matter of history that Louis Napoleon seized the opportunity afforded by our civil war to invade Mexico and attempt to establish a monarchy there, with Maximilian at the head of it. He naturally wished for the overthrow or weakening of the United States government as conducive to the success of his scheme. He only withdrew the French troops upon the urgent and threatening demand of the United States in February, 1896, nearly a year after the close of our war, and thus left Maximilian to his fate. His reasons for desiring the success of the south were political rather than personal.

Why does an invading army of a vastly superior numerical force find it necessary to capture a fortress impeding its progress to an objective point, say the capital of the enemy's country, and lose valuable time in capturing the fortress instead of circling around it and leaving sufficient force to confine the garrison of such fortress, which could be captured later?

In many cases the plan you outline is followed. The Germans so treated Maubeuge, in France, and Novogeorgievsk, in Poland. When this can be done with safety to the advancing enemy it is usually done, but this depends on several factors, so that each particular case must be a law unto itself. It is an axiom in war not to leave an enemy post in flank or in rear of an advancing army to serve as a base for raiding communications. In 1862 Lee detached half his force to capture Harper's Ferry, off his flank and rear, and in doing so lost the battle of Antietam.

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